From: **Sgraves@TechLawInc.com**
Sent: 1/4/2012 6:54:26 PM

To: "Richard Rupert/R3/USEPA/US" <Rupert.Richard@epamail.epa.gov>
CC: "Nance, Gene" <Gnance@TechLawInc.com>; "Carter,"<Joe" Jcarter@TechLawInc.com>; "Huggins, Bill" <Bhuggins@TechLawInc.com>
Subject: Dimock - Analytical Questions

Rich,
As you requested in the telephone call we had earlier this afternoon, please find the issues/questions noted below.

1. We contacted our lab (Pace) to verify that they will be performing the analysis themselves and not subcontracting the analysis. The lab said that they will send some of the analysis out to other labs but they will be other Pace labs. So they will not be subcontracting any analysis. One other note on the labs…I wanted to mention lab certification. Does EPA require any specific certification to be held by the lab. I believe they are nationally certified (NELAC), but not sure is they are state certified (or if that is even a requirement for this project).
2. You had asked why strontium analysis (87Sr/86Sr analysis) was dropped. That was based upon a conference call we had with you on 12/28/11. I don't recall the exact reason, but I would think lab availability and costs played a role. During that conference call C14 was also dropped, while DRO and GRO were added.
3. We will work on documenting the rationale of why each parameter/method was chosen for this project.
4. We have an e-mail into Isotech requesting a copy of their method or SOP that they use to analyze the samples.
5. You had asked why we were analyzing for the "complete compositional analysis of headspace gas" by Isotech. To analyze for d13C and d2H of methane (which is another parameter performed by Isotech), there has to be at least 2% methane present. To determine if there is 2% methane in the sample, the "complete compositional analysis of headspace gas" is used. Additionally, the sample will be collected using a different technique and in a different bottle than the RSK-175 method. It can be helpful to compare the results received from the Isotech method against the RSK-175 method to ensure the results are comparable.
6. You had asked why we had reduced the number of Isotech samples to 10. This was decided upon during the conference call on 12/28/11. Once again, I don't recall the exact reason, but there was some discussion noting that there were 5 homes that were a high priority to ATSDR. The high priority homes were chosen based upon past sample data indicating high levels of methane. We had noted that there will be 2 samples per home and maybe that's how we got to 10 samples. One of the reason why it was dropped to only include those 5 homes (10 samples) may have also been a cost factor.
7. We have e-mailed Isotech with confirmation on their hold times.
8. We changed the holding times for volatile samples on Table 2 to 14 days.
9. We will e-mail you and Fred Foreman with the updated tables prior to our call to Fred.

Please let me know if I missed anything from our call earlier and also if you have any additional questions or comments.
Thanks,

Suddha Graves
TechLaw, Inc.
2208 Warwood Ave
Wheeling, WV 26003
304-230-1230 (office)

304-830-1441 (cell)
304-232-5006 (fax)